

008641

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of

Los Angeles, California
August 6, 1945

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY 2840-PBN
ON 6/24/81 BY 44

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my recent personal conversation with Assistant Director D. M. LADD concerning a telephone call received by him from Representative JOHN RANKIN of Mississippi wherein he made inquiry concerning the SAC at Los Angeles.

I have endeavored to ascertain the possible source of information of Congressman RANKIN, and for whatever value it may be I wish to advise that recently while returning to California from Washington, D. C. aboard the "Chief," I met JAMES K. STEDMAN, who was formerly the investigator for the Dies Committee here in Los Angeles. STEDMAN stated that he is now employed by the Honolulu Oil Company and had been in Washington for several weeks attending Congressional hearings on an oil matter, he having been taken back by the president of the company in view of the fact that he had had considerable experience with Congressional committees. He stated that he had talked with various members of the present House Committee on Un-American Activities and in fact had been offered the position of chief investigator, but he was no longer interested in work of this kind and had turned it down.

He definitely indicated that he had seen all of the Committee, and the thought occurs to me that it is entirely possible that he may be the individual who gave Representative RANKIN the impression that he had concerning the Los Angeles Office of the FBI. STEDMAN always appeared friendly on the surface; however, very little contact has ever been had with him, and no information of any consequence was ever given to him in connection with matters under investigation by the Dies Committee. It is quite possible that he may feel I have never been friendly towards him.

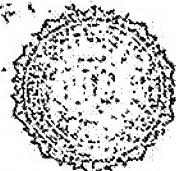
Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD, SAC



ARMED FOR FREEDOM
ANTI-FASCIST DEFENSES
RBH:ESF ADVISED BY DRAFTING
SLIP (S) OF 7/10/45
DATE 1/6/45

SEP 20 1971
SEARCHED UNINDEXED SERIALIZED FILED214
RECORDEDEX-23 61-7682-1326
19 APR 17 1945



JULY 30

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of JusticeIN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____Los Angeles, California
August 10, 1945ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT AS HEREBY SHOWN
OTHERWISE.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~DECLASSIFIED BY 11678 RFP/JB
ON 3/13/86APRIL 82, 1266
11678A463,581

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

b7D
Class. & Ext. By *KFD-PBSY*
Reason ECIM IT 1-2-42 2 SIA
Date of Review *6/26/45* *4P*

Re: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
INFORMATION CONCERNING

This is to advise that LOUIS J. RUSSELL, formerly a Special Agent of the FBI, has just arrived in Los Angeles to conduct investigation for the House Committee, apparently devoting his time to the Hollywood activities, as was recently mentioned by Congressman RANKIN in a statement to the press. He has an appointment with Miss MARGARET FERR, local head of the Better America Federation on the morning of August 10th. *John E.*

John E.
[redacted] advises that CHESTER NIKLAS of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a former secretary to Senator DAVID REED of Pennsylvania, and GEORGE McDEVOTT, formerly an OPA investigator at Newark, New Jersey, are to be the investigators for the committee, together with LOUIS J. RUSSELL, mentioned above. *(D) u*

The same informant advises that [redacted]

b7D

He did not name the source of this pressure. *(D) u*

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
COPIES DESTROYED AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
MAY 20 1961 5367 SLIP (S) OF *CONFIDENTIAL*
DATE *7/10/81*

SEP 29
514
VERIFIED ORIGINAL RECEIVED
514

008937

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

August 10, 1945

Re: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
INFORMATION CONCERNING

b7D

[Redacted]

(X) u

[Redacted]

(X) u

The informant has made [Redacted]

[Redacted]

It is to be noted, however, the informant has no specific information on this point. (X) u

Secondly, [Redacted]

[Redacted]

(X) u

CECIL B. DE MILLE advised Assistant Director NICHOLS and me on August 8th that FRANK FREEMAN of Paramount Studios had received a letter from the new Un-American Committee counsel, ERNEST ANDERSON, and he exhibited the letter and Mr. FREEMAN's reply. ANDERSON asked if FREEMAN would testify when the Committee came here on un-American activities in Hollywood, and Mr. FREEMAN replied that he would be glad to do so as he was very much interested

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SEP 20 1945
FBI - LOS ANGELES

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

August 10, 1945.

Re: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
INFORMATION CONCERNING

in the Committee's investigation and thought it an excellent idea provided they were really interested in ascertaining all about un-American activities and suggested that they begin with those branches in the Federal Government where it is known that such activity is engaged in by government employees. He stated if this was done and they came to Hollywood, he would be very glad to give whatever information he had, and he closed his communication by asking what they intended to do with the information they might develop. Mr. FREEMAN has heard nothing further from the Committee; however, they took the privilege of making public his reply without his express permission, and he is very indignant at the action of the Committee on this matter. He concludes definitely that this committee is also interested only in publicity and not in conducting a thorough impartial investigation.

R. B. HOOD
SAC

RBH:MDL

CONFIDENTIAL